

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08834 01 OF 03 271954Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01  
COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01  
AGRE-00 OIC-02 /093 W  
-----100404 272022Z /63

R 271725Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1067  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
ALL EC CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 BRUSSELS 08834

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EEC, GR  
SUBJ: EC-GREECE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS

1. SUMMARY: IN BRUSSELS JULY 25 EC COUNCIL AND GREEK  
NEGOTIATORS REVIEWED PROGRESS TO DATE IN GREECE-EC  
ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS AND PLANNED WORK FOR MONTHS AHEAD.  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT SIMONET SAID THAT WHILE TWO SIDES HAD  
COMPLETED THEIR PRESENTATION OF INITIAL POSITIONS, A  
FURTHER PERIOD OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND RECONCILIATION  
OF POSITIONS WILL BE NECESSARY BEFORE THE NEGOTIATIONS  
CAN ENTER THEIR "DECISIVE STAGE". GREEK NEGOTIATOR  
PAPLIGOURAS EMPHASIZED TO THE COUNCIL GREEK HOPE THAT THE  
NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE MOVED ALONG EXPEDITIOUSLY, BUT TOLD  
THE PRESS HE IS SATISFIED WITH NEGOTIATING PROGRESS TO DATE  
--A SENTIMENT ECHOED IN GREEK DCM'S COMMENTS TO MISSION  
OFFICER. A BELGIAN PERM DEL OFFICIAL TOLD US IT SEEMS  
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08834 01 OF 03 271954Z

CLEAR THAT THE "DECISIVE PHASE" OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CANNOT  
BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL AFTER THE EC HAS COMPREHENSIVELY  
STUDIED THE MANIFOLD ASPECTS OF COMMUNITY ENLARGEMENT, AND  
UNTIL AFTER THE FRENCH NATIONAL ELECTIONS NEXT SPRING.  
END SUMMARY.

2. EC COUNCIL, WITH BELGIAN FONMIN SIMONET IN THE CHAIR,

AND GREEK NEGOTIATING TEAM LED BY COORDINATION MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS MET JULY 25, IN REGULAR QUARTERLY MINISTERIAL-LEVEL REVIEW OF EC-GREECE ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS. IN LENGTHY STATEMENT (MISSION HAS RECEIVED COPY ON PRIVILEGED BASIS WHICH WE ARE POUCHING TO THE DEPARTMENT, EUR/RPE, AND EMBASSY ATHENS) SIMONET SAID THAT WHILE THE TWO SIDES HAVE FINISHED THEIR INITIAL EXPOSITION OF POSITIONS, IT WILL BE NECESSARY, BEFORE BEGINNING THE "DECISIVE PHASE" OF THE TALKS--I.E., HORSE TRADING DESIGNED TO BRIDGE ANY REMAINING GAPS IN POSITIONS AND CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS --"TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS AND USE THIS ANALYSIS TO HELP ALIGN THESE POSITIONS."

3. IN REVIEWING THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE, SIMONET MADE THE FOLLOWING MAJOR POINTS:

A. GREECE HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT ACCEPTS IN THEIR ENTIRETY THE TREATIES ESTABLISHING THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND THEIR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES, AS WELL AS THE BODY OF COMMUNITY DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATIES.

B. THE EC HAS EXPLAINED THE CONTENT OF COMMUNITY PATRIMONY SECTOR-BY-SECTOR, AND IN SOME AREAS A GREECE-EC CONSENSUS IS EMERGING. IN OTHER AREAS, HOWEVER, THE TWO SIDES ARE STILL DIVIDED. (SIMONET CITED AS EXAMPLES OF THE LATTER CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 08834 01 OF 03 271954Z

THE QUESTION OF GREEK CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EC BUDGET AND THE GREEK POSITION THAT TRANSITIONAL MEASURES FOR GREEK PRODUCTS SHOULD TAKE AS THEIR STARTING POINT ARRANGEMENTS IN FORCE UNDER THE PRESENT GREECE-EC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT, "WHILE THE COMMUNITY FEELS THAT ACCESSION CREATES AN ENTIRELY NEW LEGAL SITUATION.")

C. WHILE GREECE HAS PRESSED THE EC TO EXPRESS ITS VIEWS ON THE DURATION OF TRANSITIONAL MEASURES--GREECE HAS PROPOSED AN OVERALL FIVE-YEAR TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, BUT WITH SEVERAL EXCEPTIONS FOR PERIODS BOTH LONGER AND SHORTER THAN FIVE YEARS--THE COMMUNITY "MUST STILL RESERVE JUDGMENT FOR THE TIME BEING." THE COMMUNITY'S AIM, AS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED TO THE GREEKS IN THE APRIL 5 MINISTERIAL MEETING, IS "TO FIND A BALANCED FORMULA FOR A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF A LENGTH WHICH WILL BE ADEQUATE TO SETTLE ALL THE PROBLEMS AND WHICH WILL BE IN THE INTERESTS OF BOTH GREECE AND THE COMMUNITY. THE DEFINITION OF THIS 'BALANCED FORMULA' IS IN POINT OF FACT ONE OF THE CAPITAL OBJECTIVES OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS."

D. TO AID THE COMMUNITY IN ARRIVING AT A SECTOR-BY-SECTOR

POSITION ON TRANSITIONAL MEASURES--AN UNDERTAKING THE  
COMMUNITY WILL "EXPEDITE...IN THE COMING MONTHS"--THE  
GREEKS WILL NEED TO PRESENT SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL  
DATA.

E. AGRICULTURE WILL CONSTITUTE "ONE OF THE THORNIEST  
ASPECTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, OWING BOTH TO ITS INTRINSIC  
COMPLEXITY AND TO CERTAIN DIFFICULTIES MORE ESPECIALLY  
AFFECTING A NUMBER OF COMMUNITY REGIONS AND PRODUCTS."

F. THE EC IS UNABLE TO AGREE TO A GREEK REQUEST THAT A  
CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENT BE ESTABLISHED PERMITTING GREECE  
TO PARTICIPATE TO SOME EXTENT IN UPCOMING COMMUNITY

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08834 02 OF 03 271959Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
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AGRE-00 OIC-02 /093 W

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R 271725Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1068  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
ALL EC CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 BRUSSELS 08834

USEEC

ATTEMPTS TO RESTRUCTURE MEDITERRANEAN AGRICULTURE AND TO  
MAKE OTHER CHANGES IN THE "AQUIS COMMUNAUTAIRE." WHILE  
THE EC IS PREPARED TO BRIEF GREECE REGULARLY ON DEVELOP-  
MENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SO THAT IT CAN "MAKE ANY  
ADJUSTMENTS TO GREEK LEGISLATION WHICH SUCH DEVELOPMENTS  
MIGHT REQUIRE" AND MAKE ANY OBSERVATIONS TO THE COMMUNITY  
IT WISHES, UNTIL GREEK ACCESSION, "THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
COMMUNITY WILL BE A MATTER FOR THE COMMUNITY ALONE."

4. IN LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FORTHCOMING "MORE DETAILED  
EXAMINATION OF POSITIONS," SIMONET SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE

AUGUST VACATION BREAK, THE COMMUNITY WILL BE PREPARED TO COMMENT FURTHER ON CUSTOMS UNION, THE EC'S EXTERNAL RELATIONS, CAPITAL MOVEMENTS, AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (I.E., MOVEMENT AND BENEFITS FOR LABORERS). THE COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE FURTHER GREEK REACTIONS TO STATEMENTS THE EC HAS PREVIOUSLY MADE ON GREEK CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMUNITY  
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 08834 02 OF 03 271959Z

RESOURCES, TRADE IN PRODUCTS OF THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY, THE RIGHT OF ESTABLISHMENT, AND AGRICULTURE.

5. SIMONET NOTED THAT THE LABORIOUS PROCESS OF REVIEWING AND ATTEMPTING TO RECONCILE COMMUNITY SECONDARY LEGISLATION WITH GREEK LEGISLATION IS CONTINUING, AND SAID NEGOTIATORS FROM THE TWO SIDES SHOULD, AT AN EARLY SESSION AT THE DEPUTIES LEVEL, GIVE A STATUS REPORT ON THAT WORK HIGHLIGHTING ANY PROBLEM AREAS THAT HAVE ARISEN.

6. SIMONET CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT THE WORK PROGRAM PROPOSED BY THE COMMUNITY REFLECTS A DESIRE THAT THE ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS "BE AS CONSTRUCTIVE AS POSSIBLE WITHOUT, HOWEVER, OVERLOOKING THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED.... THIS NEW PHASE SHOULD PROVIDE US WITH AS CLEAR AND COMPREHENSIVE A VIEW AS POSSIBLE OF THE CURRENT POSITIONS... THE COMMUNITY IS CONVINCED THAT THE PROGRAM IT IS PROPOSING TO YOU WILL MAKE FOR THE BEST PREPARATION FOR THE DECISIVE PHASE OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS, IT BEING UNDERSTOOD THAT PROGRESS MADE IN ALIGNING OUR POSITIONS CAN BE REGARDED AS FINAL ONLY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN OVERALL AGREEMENT.... THE COMMUNITY THEREFORE INTENDS TO PROVIDE THE GREEK DELEGATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, PARTICULARLY ON THOSE QUESTIONS CONCERNING WHICH THE COMMUNITY IS REQUIRED TO EXPAND UPON ITS PREVIOUS STATEMENTS."

7. WHILE GREEK NEGOTIATOR PAPALIGOURAS GOT CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN HE ASKED FOR DURING THE SESSION--HE HAD REQUESTED: (A) A JOINT STATEMENT DECLARING THE EXPLORATORY PHASE OF NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDED AND THE FINAL PHASE BEGUN; (B) FORMAL GREEK INVOLVEMENT IN THE EVOLUTION OF COMMUNITY STRUCTURE AND POLICY (PARA 4F ABOVE); AND  
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PAGE 03 BRUSSE 08834 02 OF 03 271959Z

(C) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SEVERAL EC-GREEK WORKING GROUPS TO MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG--HE DID NOT GO AWAY EMPTY-HANDED. SIMONET TOLD THE PRESS FOLLOWING THE NEGOTIATING

SESSION THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD "AGREED TO CONCLUDE THE EXPLORATORY PHASE AND ENTER THE PHASE OF CONCRETE DISCUSSIONS." THE EC PROMISED TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING WORKING GROUPS. THE EC ALSO AGREED TO HOLD THE NEXT MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING ON OCTOBER 17, EARLIER THAN THE COMMUNITY REALLY WANTS. PERM DEL OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED THAT THE OCTOBER 17 MEETING WILL BE UNPRODUCTIVE IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF ACTIVITY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS DURING THE UPCOMING SUMMER BREAK; THEY THINK THE EARLY MEETING DATE OF OCTOBER 17 LEAVES THE DOOR OPEN TO GREEK PRESSURE FOR ANOTHER IN THE SERIES OF "QUARTERLY" MINISTERIAL MEETINGS BEFORE CHRISTMAS. PAPALIGOURAS HIMSELF SUGGESTED THIS POSSIBILITY IN REMARKS TO THE PRESS.

8. IN MEETING THE PRESS, PAPALIGOURAS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS OF THE SESSION WITH THE COUNCIL. HE DENIED REPORTERS' SUGGESTIONS THAT THE EC IS TRYING TO BUY TIME IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, ADDING THAT FOR HIS PART, AS CHIEF GREEK NEGOTIATOR, HE DOES NOT WISH "TO WIN A SINGLE DAY BY HIDING A SINGLE PROBLEM." IN CONVERSATION WITH MISSION OFFICER, DCM AT GREEK MISSION TO EC ALSO SAID THAT THE GREEKS ARE "BASICALLY SATISFIED" WITH THE PACE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND NOTED THAT THE TALKS "WILL CONTINUE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS BECAUSE WE HAVE TO SORT OUT ALL THE PROBLEMS." AS IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS, GREEK DCM INDICATED THAT THE GREEK TACTIC IS TO TRY PRIVATELY, WITHOUT BEING QUERULOUS OR PROVOKING IRRITATION, TO KEEP THE HEAT ON THE EC TO MOVE THE NEGOTIATIONS ALONG, WHILE PUBLICLY INDICATING SATISFACTION WITH THE PACE OF THE TALKS.

9. A BELGIAN PERM DEL OFFICIAL WHO CHAIRS THE COREPER COMMITTEE STAFFING THE GREEK NEGOTIATIONS TOLD MISSION OFFICER JULY 22 THAT DURING THE BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY  
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PAGE 04 BRUSSE 08834 02 OF 03 271959Z

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 08834 03 OF 03 272000Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

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COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01  
AGRE-00 OIC-02 /093 W

-----100573 272020Z /63

R 271725Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1069  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
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ALL EC CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 BRUSSELS 08834

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(I.E., UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR) THE BELGIANS WILL DO  
WHAT THEY REASONABLY CAN TO KEEP THE TALKS MOVING ALONG  
IN AN ORDERLY, CONSTRUCTIVE WAY, BUT THAT IT IS CLEAR  
"FINAL NEGOTIATIONS" ARE UNLIKELY TO BEGIN UNTIL SOMETIME  
NEXT YEAR. HE BASED HIS ASSESSMENT ON THE FOLLOWING  
CONSIDERATIONS: (A) THE EC ACTUALLY DOES NEED CONSIDERABLE  
FURTHER INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION FROM GREECE;  
(B) EC INSTITUTIONS ARE COMMITTED TO CONDUCTING A WIDE-  
RANGING EXAMINATION OF COMMUNITY ENLARGEMENT THIS  
AUTUMN; AND (C) IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE CONCLUDING  
AGRICULTURAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH GREECE (BECAUSE OF  
IMPLICATIONS FOR PORTUGUESE AND SPANISH ACCESSION  
NEGOTIATIONS) PRIOR TO FRENCH NATIONAL ELECTIONS NEXT  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009